

SAVE THE BULL TROUT

Release alive, any Bull Trout you catch
Bull Trout Populations Have Declined.

- studies show that bull trout are declining in most areas
- many streams are no longer home to the bull trout
- it was once widely distributed in western Montana

Every Bull Trout Is Important.

- small bull trout must be allowed to grow so they can reproduce
- it takes from 5-7 years for a bull trout to become sexually mature
- even adults don't always spawn every year

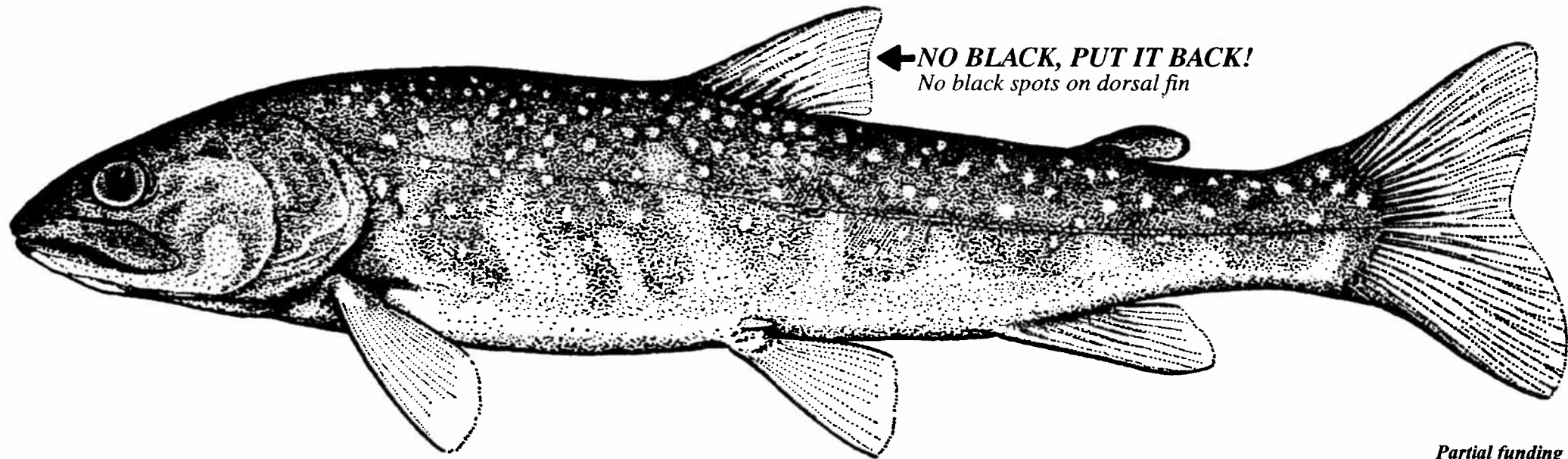
Recognize Bull Trout If You Catch Them.

- bull trout are easily recognized: they have no black spots on their dorsal fin
- they have light or pale colored spots on the body but no black spots or worm-like markings



**Montana
Wildlife**

*See the
more information*



Let 'em go!

If You Catch One, Gently Release It.

Properly released bull trout will grow and reproduce.

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In Cooperation with
Oregon State Police
Columbia River In
Washington Depart
Idaho Department
National Marine F
U.S. Fish and Wild*

Bull Trout are Part of Montana's Natural Resource Heritage

-You can help the bull trout by carefully releasing each one you catch-

For thousands of years, bull trout have traveled some of the longest migration routes of any trout in North America. Once common throughout the inland Pacific Northwest, bull trout now live in reduced numbers in five western states and two Canadian provinces. They are extinct in California. Montana is the bull trout's stronghold, but even here bull trout face a good chance of extinction in most streams where they live.

Bull trout are actually "chars", related to coastal dolly varden, brook trout and lake trout. Over the eons, bull trout have developed three different life styles: Some spend their entire lives in small tributaries; others live as adults in rivers and enter tributaries to spawn; still others live as adults in lakes, like Flathead and Swan in northwest Montana, and spawn in tributaries.

Bull trout spawn in the fall about the time larch needles turn golden. Their eggs remain six inches deep in spawning gravels until spring, when the eggs hatch and the small fry emerge. Young bull trout then huddle among the stream bottom rocks for several years before migrating downstream to bigger streams or lakes. This lifestyle renders the bull trout highly sensitive to changes in stream bottom habitat and makes bull trout prime indicators of stream health.

Once called the "cannibal of Montana's streams" because of its predatory habits, the bull trout is now considered a species of special concern. Recent review under the Endangered Species Act has deemed the bull trout worthy of federal listing, but it has not been listed as yet because there are other species in line ahead of the bull trout. The bull trout is in trouble because of harm to its stream habitat, competition from exotic species like brook trout and lake trout, and poaching.

Montana's Governor has made saving the bull trout a high priority and a measure of Montana's ability to be a good steward of our sensitive natural resources. A Bull Trout Restoration Team has been formed and is working to help save the bull trout. You can get involved in this effort by contacting the Governor's office or the Helena, Kalispell, or Missoula offices of the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. How can you help? You can serve on one of the committees being formed across western Montana to help bull trout in each river basin. As a member of one of these committees, you can get involved in specific actions designed to save this native Montanan.

-Bull trout are Montana Largest and Rarest Native Trout-

HELP SAVE THE BULL TROUT



Water Home Find-A-Word



The following list is made up of the various animals that live near or in the water. Circle the words in the group of letters below. Words may be hidden across, backward, up, down or diagonally.

FROGS
BIRDS
TURTLES
BUTTERFLIES
BEES
BEAVER
DUCKS
RABBITS

OWL
SNAKES
CRICKETS
DRAGONFLY
LADYBUG
FISH
LIZARD

CRAWDADS
GRASSHOPPER
RACCOON
AMOEBAS
PARAMECIUM
WORMS
SALAMANDER



P A R R E P P O H S S A R G U B Y D A L D
A C C C R I C K E T S S T P L S M O R T R
R S R R O S C I C K E A T P D C K O H P A
A T U A (F R O G S) V W L P R W Y W S A B G
M O O W N A A B O E M A I A K O I R T S O
E C C D R C A D A T D B S C R F A W L A N
C F G A U C B Y B U T T E R F L I E S D F
I B I D S O H D U R C K S R A B B I A K L
U L E S B O E A V T E R D U C K S M L O Y
M D I A R N D S T L U R T L O Q S F A O P
A P S A V L A M A E N D E W R A B E M O D
R A M E C E I U M S T U L R T L E R A M A
A C A R G O R B E X E S T I B B A R N M D
M R W O R M S E E P I O H S G W R G D A A
E T H E M K B L I M L I Z A R D D R E E D
P A R Q C N O N T O F I R E V O N U R R R
A R A S S N A K E S S E K A A M O E B A A

Did You
Test your k

1. Like pacific salmon, bu True or False?
2. The large adult bull tr aquatic insects (b) bugs t bushes along the stream (c snakes
3. The largest bull trout weighed: (a) 1 lb., 2 ozs. lbs., 10 ozs. (d) 12 lbs.,
4. The angling limit on bu waters is 3 fish per day.
5. Adult bull trout which lake can swim more than 15 tributaries. True or False
6. Bull trout have been co "Concern" for many years an by the Montana Fish, Wildl.
7. Bull trout are found in states, including Montana, and Nevada, and they are f Provinces. True or False?
8. Bull trout are consider of extinction in most area: believe that much of the d caused by loss of stream ha introduced, exotic fish spe
9. Bull trout can interbre False?
10. When bull trout spawn t without help from the male. a full-sized pick-up truck.

these hybrids are sterile.

in California but are now

Fork Flathead River.

seek small streams in the ate more than 150 miles

it have been tightly controlled.

out have been known to reach

diet is made up almost entirely to grow to be an adult.

team for 1-3 years before

after the eggs hatch, young bull put survive to return to a lake

Find-A-Word